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Joerg Dantlgraber

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EXAMINER

LOPEZ, FRANK D

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Amended claim 13 has the limitations of claim 16 added to it, but several limitations deleted from it and added as new claims 24 and 25, raising new issues.

Applicant argues that the “blanking and nibbling machine” has support in the specification on page 15 line 6. The specification is not consistent with itself, since in 2 places (abstract, page 15 line 6) it discusses a blanking and nibbling machine; and in 3 other places (page 1 line 12-13; page 2 line 8; page 5 line 13), it discusses a blanking or nibbling machine. Therefore, the specification should be objected to and the claim rejected based on the objection to the specification.

The question arises as to what a blanking and nibbling machine is and how it is different from a blanking or nibbling machine. A blanking or nibbling machine is understood by the examiner as being a machine that does blanking or it does nibbling, or it can be reconfigured from doing blanking to doing nibbling. A blanking and nibbling machine is understood by the examiner as being a machine that does blanking and nibbling at the same time. Perhaps, applicant is meaning a blanking or nibbling machine when claiming a blanking and nibbling machine.